

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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July 5, 1979

79-8001

To: All individuals and Groups Interested in the
Activities of the Commission for Teacher
Preparation and Licensing

From: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary *PL*

Subject: Redesign of the Program Approval - External
Assessment Process

A major activity of the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing during the next few months will be the redesign of the existing program approval process, especially that portion of the process known as External Assessment. This redesign effort is an attempt to improve the responsiveness of the Commission to the responsibilities established in the Teacher Preparation and Licensing Law of 1970, and in particular to focus on the concerns expressed by representatives of the Legislature that the assessment process focus more specifically on the graduates of professional preparation programs.

In response to the concerns expressed by the Legislature and other constituents, Dr. Michael Scriven, Director of the Evaluation Institute of the University of San Francisco, has been engaged by the Commission to conduct four pilot studies designed to explore alternative models of assessment, a model for evaluating the adequacy of professional preparation programs, alternative guideline statements, and alternative procedures for the selection and use of assessor teams. In addition to this external evaluation by Dr. Scriven, the staff of the Commission is also involved in conducting a review of the approval process which will result in recommendations for changes in the existing systems, or alternative procedures to replace the present methods of program approval and evaluation.

I would like to invite any persons who have an interest in the program approval process of the Commission to provide the staff with comments and suggestions for either improving

the existing process or for developing alternative processes. Your comments may address any portion of the approval process from initial document approval to the on-site assessment activities at colleges and universities and the evaluation of graduates of professional preparation programs. Due to the limited time available to prepare a complete report of redesign for submission to the Legislature, I must ask that all comments be submitted in writing to Dr. Richard Mastain, Chief of Programs, Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing, Sacramento, 95814. In order to be considered in the initial redesign discussions, all material must be received no later than July 16, 1979.

On behalf of the Commission, I thank you for your continued support and interest. In addition, you may be assured that any comments and suggestions you provide to assist our redesign efforts will be seriously considered and greatly appreciated.